

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 00248 121056Z
ACTION PC-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 /021 W
-----127321 121137Z /14
R 121010Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7732

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DEPT ALSO FOR PEACE CORPS: MS. KING

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, EDEV, BG
SUBJ: PEACE CORPS NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 6760

1. POLCOUNSELOR CALLED ON LUTFULLAHIL MAJID, JOINT SECRETARY, EXTERNAL RESOURCES DIVISION, MINISTRY OF PLANNING, JANUARY 12. MAJID IS ACTION OFFICER ON PROPOSED PEACE CORPS AGREEMENT.

2. MAJID SAID PLANNING HAS RECEIVED CONCURRENCE OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS TO SUBSTANCE OF DRAFT NOTE DELIVERED BY MS. KING DURING HER VISIT TO DACCA. CONCURRENCES REMAINING TO BE RECEIVED ARE THOSE OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE, MINISTRY OF LAW AND NATIONAL BOARD OF REVENUE (NBR). MAJID EXPECTS NO PROBLEM FROM FIRST TWO AS PROPOSAL IS OF "FRAMEWORK" NATURE AND ENTAILS NO FINANCIAL OBLIGATION BY BDG AND AS LANGUAGE OF DRAFT NOTE IS EXPECTED TO CONFORM TO STANDARD SET BY MINISTRY OF LAW. HE ASSUMES THERE MAY BE SOME CARPING FROM NBR ON TAX AND CUSTOMS EXEMPTIONS BUT HE FELT THAT PLANNING COULD OVERCOME THESE.

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3. THESE REMAINING CLEARANCES, MAJID HOPES, WILL BE OBTAINED IN ABOUT TWO OR THREE WEEKS. THIS WILL, OF COURSE, BE TOO LATE FOR MUHITH TO CARRY AGREEMENT TO WASHINGTON; HE DEPARTS DACCA ON JANUARY 15.

4. MAJID RAISED POINT, AS DOES EMBASSY, OF THE FORM OF THE AGREEMENT. ONE METHOD, WHICH PLANNING MINISTRY AND

FOREIGN MINISTRY PREFER, IS FOR U.S. CHIEF OF MISSION
HERE TO SEND FIRST PERSON NOTE TO MFA WHICH COULD BE
RESPONDED TO IN FIRST PERSON NOTE BY ADVISOR (MINISTER) FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THIS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN METHOD USED IN
EARLIER AGREEMENTS WHICH WE HAVE TRACKED DOWN IN UNITED
STATES TREATIES SERIES. IF DEPARTMENT AND PEACE CORPS
WISH A DIFFERENT METHOD TO BE FOLLOWED, PLEASE INFORM
US SO THAT BDG CAN BE PREPARED.

5. ANOTHER POINT WHICH MAJID MADE IS THAT HOME AND FOREIGN
MINISTRY CLEARANCES HAVE BEEN FOR EIGHT REPEAT EIGHT
VOLUNTEERS INITIALLY. POLCOUNSELOR POINTED OUT THAT
EMBASSY UNDERSTOOD PEACE CORPS THOUGHT TWENTY WOULD BE
MINIMUM FOR EFFICIENTLY OPERATED PROGRAM. MAJID SAID
LOWER LEVEL HAD BEEN DECIDED UPON BUT NOTED THAT "FRAME
WORK" TYPE AGREEMENT NED NOT BE SPECIFIC ON THIS.
BERGESEN

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Message Attributes

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